



Supreme Court of Appeals State of West Virginia

News

Administrative Office
1900 Kanawha Blvd., East
Bldg. 1, Room E-316
Charleston, West Virginia 25305
(304) 340-2305 Jennifer Bundy
(304) 340-2306 April Harless
(304) 558-4219 / TTY
(304) 558-1212 / FAX
Web Site: <http://www.state.wv.us/wvsca>
Information Services Division
Email: Jennifer.bundy@courtwv.gov
Email: April.harless@courtswwv.gov

Combating Child Abuse and Neglect Conference For immediate release Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Martinsburg, W.Va. – Attorneys, social workers, circuit judges, probation officers, court-appointed advocates, counselors, nurses, domestic violence advocates, and others from around West Virginia are gathering this summer at meetings in Canaan Valley, Martinsburg, and Huntington to learn the latest techniques for working together to combat child abuse and neglect.

The three two-day seminars are sponsored by the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia, its West Virginia Court Improvement Program, and the West Virginia Coalition Against Domestic Violence.

Attendees are learning the procedure of a Chapter 49 child abuse and neglect case. They are receiving the latest updates on child abuse and neglect law, exploring specialized topics, and learning how to collaborate across disciplines to identify and address child abuse and neglect.

Speakers include circuit judges, family court judges, attorneys who specialize in child abuse and neglect cases, prosecutors, public defenders, psychologists, and officials from the Department of Health and Human Resources.

The first conference was held June 21-22 at Canaan Valley Resort. The second conference is June 24-25 at the Martinsburg Holiday Inn, and the third will be July 12-13 at the Big Sandy Arena in Huntington.

The meetings are open to the press. **They are closed to the public because registration was required due to the capacity of 200 at each location, which has been reached. There is a waiting list for attendance.**

The West Virginia Court Improvement Program is funded through the federal Administration for Children and Families and the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia. For more information on the program, visit its website at www.wvcip.com.

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